September 12, 2011

Each day begins with a safety tailgate meeting.

Monday we used wash water from Tank 22 to help remove the residue from Tank 27. A water sample for pH measurement has not been collected from Tank 26 because the material at the valve is the sludge material from Tank 27. As of today we plan to use/remove wash water when necessary to facilitate removal of sludge from Tank 27.

Today we were able to remove 2 loads from Tank 27. Transferring the material to Tank 26 has been difficult as the sludge material contains bits of rust and debris that has the effect of plugging the intake valve to Tank 26. Unloading the sludge from the vacuum truck was slow because the hoses frequently become plugged with debris. We removed 2 loads from Tank 27.

September 13, 2011

The transferring of sludge material into Tank 26 is becoming more difficult. Today we continued transferring Monday's second load of sludge material to Tank 26. The crew will attempt to use another intake valve on the opposite side of Tank 26 to continue transferring sludge. We removed 1.5 loads from Tank 27. Material does not flow well (a worker placed sludge into drink cup, turned cup upside down and sludge would not flow with gravity)...

September 14, 2011

The difficulty of transferring of sludge material into Tank 26 continues. Productivity this week is 1.5 loads/day (~50% of the past weeks effort - 3 loads). Today we were delayed due to the clogging of hoses by debris and sludge material. We are primarily focusing on the sludge heel at the center of the tank. Today we prepared and mailed access agreements to the owners of the offsite properties identified for background sampling.

September 15, 2011

Today while removing sludge from Tank 27 we were delayed due to the clogging of hoses by debris and sludge material. We transferred 1.5 loads from Tank 27 into Tank 26. Late yesterday water as collected in a poly tank from Tank 26 using a man lift, a hose over the top and a pump. The pH of the water collected was measured. pH is 11.89. We prepared access agreements to the owners of the onsite private properties in Areas of Concern (AOC) 1 and 3.

September 16, 2011

Today the site received rain early this morning (6:00 am) creating good working conditions in the field; at 8:30 am the site received another steady rain shower. We continue to remove sludge from Tank 27. The remaining sludge is located in the north central area of Tank 27. The material is somewhat stickier, but we are able to remove it by locally applying a stream of water to break it close to the intake hose. By mid-morning a load was being transferred to Tank 26. Tank X3 (little white 16' tank) at the entrance of the NW property has been demolished. Only the bottom remains. We plan to continue with

removing the tops of X1 and X2 (two black tanks at the entrance to NW property) today. We anticipate another load being transferred to Tank 26, provided that the hoses do not become plugged with sludge sediment and debris.

Test America is scheduled to provide us with the analytical results for the waste characterization of the small tanks on the NW Property and the 8 tanks (Tanks 17-24) at the refinery. GAINCO has notified me that the Corpus Christi Caller Times has a short notice that 2 site (see e-mail this morning).

Plans for September 12-23, 2011

We plan to continue removing sludge from Tank 27 and transferring into Tank 26. We plan to remove the demolished tanks (X1,X2 & X3) from the NW property, and mobilize the shear to the main refinery area to shear the tops to the 8 tanks.